**INFLUENCES ON THE BUSINESS CYCLE**

**Try this scavenger hunt activity using these four data sources:**

* Economy at a Glance  
  [www.bls.gov/eag/eag.us.htm?H1](http://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.us.htm?H1" \o "www.bls.gov/eag/eag.us.htm?H1" \t "_blank)
* Gross Domestic Product (current and past figures)  
  [www.research.stlouisfed.org/redirect.php?url=/fred//data/gdp.html](http://www.research.stlouisfed.org/redirect.php?url=/fred//data/gdp.html" \o "www.research.stlouisfed.org/redirect.php?url=/fred//data/gdp.html" \t "_blank) and [www.bea.gov/national/index.htm#gdp](http://www.bea.gov/national/index.htm" \l "gdp" \o "www.bea.gov/national/index.htm#gdp" \t "_blank)
* Debt Clock  
  [www.brillig.com/debt\_clock/](http://www.brillig.com/debt_clock/" \o "www.brillig.com/debt_clock/" \t "_blank)
* The Briefing Room: Official Statements  
  [http://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-and-remarks](http://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-and-remarks" \o "http://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-and-remarks" \t "_blank)

**Question 1: Is gasoline cheaper today than it was in 1959?**

**Question 2: What was the unemployment rate in February 1999?**

**Question 3: What is the outstanding public debt as of today? Go to http://www.brillig.com/debt\_clock/ to find out.**

**Question 4: To whom is outstanding public debt owed?**

**Question 5: What is the trend in the personal saving rate?**

**Question 6: How much of a problem is inflation so far in 2004?**

**Question 7: By how much did the Gross Domestic Product change in the fourth quarter of 2003?**

**ON THE BACK :**

**Write two paragraphs describing the current state of the economy and predict the state of the economy one year from now.  Be sure to include statistics from the web sites above.**